

helping to ensure our ocean legacy for future generations.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
November 13, 2000.

NOTE: At the time of publication, S. 1482, approved November 13, had not been received by the Office of the Federal Register in time for assignment of a public law number.

**Statement on Signing the National
Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act
of 2000**

November 13, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign S. 1482, the “National Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act of 2000,” further strengthening Nation’s commitment to ocean conservation. This Nation prides itself on its conservation ethic, as embodied in our national parks and refuges. The 13 marine sanctuaries extend this ethic into the sea, ensuring a healthy ocean environment for future generations of swimmers and surfers, fishermen and explorers, teachers and students.

National marine sanctuaries enjoy broad bipartisan support, and I am particularly grateful to the Congressional leadership of this legislation for their efforts. I am especially pleased that this act creates the Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program, named in memory of Dr. Foster, who passed away in June after a 23-year career fighting for ocean conservation. It is a fitting tribute to Dr. Foster to encourage scholarship, particularly by women and minorities, in the fields of oceanography, marine biology, and maritime archeology.

This legislation builds on the Clinton-Gore administration’s work to preserve our Nation’s oceans. Over the past 7 years, the Vice President and I have fought for healthier beaches and cleaner coastal waters, greater protection for endangered and threatened marine species, sound fisheries management, and support for marine protected areas. We have worked with Congress to secure a five-fold increase in marine sanctuary funding to \$26 million and add new sanctuaries off Massachusetts, Florida, Washington, Hawaii,

and, most recently, Michigan. Today we extend this program into the future, and with it this Nation’s commitment to an ocean ethic for the 21st century.

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**Statement on Signing the Coastal
Barrier Resources Reauthorization
Act of 2000**

November 13, 2000

Today I am pleased to sign into law S. 1752, the “Coastal Barrier Resources Reauthorization Act of 2000.” This Act reauthorizes and amends the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA), which protects lives, property, and key coastal barrier habitat by prohibiting Federal subsidies for development and disaster relief on many of our Nation’s coastal barriers.

First enacted in 1982, CBRA established the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS), which includes undeveloped coastal barrier habitats along the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Great Lakes, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Last year, these coastal barriers were renamed the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System in honor of the late Senator, who authored the original CBRA and this reauthorizing legislation and championed numerous other environmental laws throughout his distinguished career of public service. Today, CBRA protects over 3 million acres of coastal barrier habitat.

Coastal barriers provide a multitude of services that are foundations of a strong economy and healthy environment. For example, coastal barriers often help provide the conditions necessary to support productive and lucrative fisheries. They also provide essential habitat for threatened and endangered species and protect the mainland from coastal storms, bearing the full force of storm surge and hurricane-level winds and shielding the mainland from the severest storm conditions. By limiting Federal subsidies such as flood insurance from units in the System, CBRA discourages development, keeping lives out of harm’s way, protecting fish